

PUNK ROCK

THE NEW WAVE
OF
SOUND
&
STYLE

"HOW TO LOOK PUNK"

(AMERICAN STYLE)



BY-

Marlitz

NEW & IMPROVED
EDITION

THIS EDITION HAS BEEN IMPROVED (AS MUCH AS IT IS HUMANLY POSSIBLE TO DO SO) WITH ADDITIONAL NOTES BY THE EDITOR TO HELP THE UNWARY. © KERYGMA PRESS/J. LANGE 2020.

Dir Denney of the WEIRDOS



A note on the cover. On the left is Pleasant Gehman, now a multi-genre artist, also a best selling author, who does tarot readings, and describes herself as a showgirl, an actor, a punk historian, a witch (?) and Hostess of The Devil's Music podcast. In the middle is Belinda Carlisle (yes, that Belinda) who was once a member of the Germs in one of their earliest incarnations, and Helen Keller on the right.

See the following pages for more details and below for pics from the same photoshoot by Jenny Lens.



This 'Fanzine' was first published in August 1977, a month before a punk rock fashion show in Hollywood called, not surprisingly, The Punk Rock & Fashion Show, which featured such acts as Blondie, Devo and the WeirDOS. For more of its history, visit <https://www.ledzlamomomom.com/magazine/index/2020/8/10/how-to-look-punk-in-1977-hollywood>.

WHAT IS PUNK?

"Buzz and Blast. Up on the stage can be found a numbing array of groups and soloists whose names dramatize the nihilism and brute force that have inspired the movement: Clash, Thundertrain, Weirdos, Dictators, Stranglers, Damned, and the demon-eyed New Yorker who could become the Mick Jagger of punk, Richard Hell. The music aims for the gut. Even compared with the more elemental stylings of 1950's rock 'n' roll—which it closely resembles—punk rock is a primal scream. The music comes in fast, short bursts of buzz and blast."

—TIME Magazine

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WHAT DOES IT SOUND LIKE?

"It has little to do with the American garage bands of a decade or more ago, which is why "punk" is a misnomer, but it does share with them a conviction that anyone could and should get up and do it. It speaks a language whose common denominators are excitement, deliberately provocative sexuality, outrage. And desperation. It is youth reasserting its hold on rock 'n' roll."

—© 1977 CREAM Magazine, Inc.

"Punk may be new to millions, but in Los Angeles the scene is into its second distinct phase. The first was kicked off in August, 1976 . . . it was the same old story of young hard rock bands . . . playing original material and being unable to break into the local club scene. They simply took matters into their own hands and created a vital movement."

—CIRCUS Magazine

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

"Punk Rock: Next Big Rock 'n' Roll Trend? Leather jackets, chains, torn T-shirts and rowdy antics aren't news in rock circles . . . The Sex Pistols and the Damned are two English names to note. In the U.S., the Ramones and the Runaways are among the front runners . . . The "symbol" of punk rock is a safety pin (worn through ears, lips, nose or on clothing). The mode is moving into fashion circles."

—TEEN TESTED TOPICS



Oh, I thought it was all to do with attitude. I must be wrong.

This first page sets up the whole tone of this publication; trying to define something as ambiguous as punk in a few snippets cannot possibly justify every definition for each person will have his or her own interpretation and, as we will see, this author is more concerned about the look rather than what it means to actually be a punk. You have been warned. The cringe-inducing attitude of the author is shameful; and being involved in cosmetics betrays her own approach for she is really only interested in the surface, or the superficial, rather than the deeper underlying reasons why some people become punks (and not just look like them).

HOW TO LOOK

2



Photographer
Jenny Lens*

bass player
Lorna Doom of the GERMES
(America's answer to Gaye Advert)
Her real name is Terri Ryan.

Punk Rock, the New Wave¹ in sound and style, is an acting-out of today's youth attitude. In London it is socio-political, rebellious and angry . . . in New York it is street-scene frustration . . . and in Los Angeles it is "getting it on," pogoing all night long. But wherever, it's making a statement, "do your own thing!" (Yeah, right.)

That's why "looking punk"² is best achieved using ordinary things around the house. Search drawers, closets and attic, plus your friendly neighborhood thrift shops, for all varieties of PUNK JUNK³ to attach to your clothes (or to mend holes and rips) . . . use safety pins (the symbol of punkdom);⁴ paper clips and clothes pins . . . old badges, buttons, charms, soda can flip-top tabs and war medals . . . bathtub plug chains, dog chains, hardware chains and locks . . . tumbler locks, bottle openers, rabbit's foot key chains and large antique hotel keys . . . bits of coiled rope, old neckties and broken shoestrings . . . studs, nuts 'n bolts, washers . . . toy guns, mock razor blades, play pocket-knives and toy daggers⁵ . . . all tied, pinned, clipped, taped or stapled to clothing, or worn as junk jewelry, in your own most individually creative fashion.⁶

1 New Wave and Punk are totally opposed to each other. New Wave is a more generic term for a type of music often associated (and confused) with Punk, whereas the latter tends to be more aggressive and harder and therefore a genre in its own right. People use the term 'New Wave' as it is more acceptable by definition than Punk when referring to bands other than the Sex Pistols, Clash, Damned, etc.

2 Ergo sequitur, looking like a punk is more important than being one. Yeah, right.

3 Available from all good punk junk shops, presumably.

4 Really? Wow, I never knew that.

5 Used tampons, used condoms, false teeth, granny's curlers, the leftovers of yesterday's meal, fresh snot, old snot, dry snot, wet snot, diaphragms, discarded bubble/chewing gum, dustbin lids, your grandad's favourite Jim Reeves records, etc. Really the list is endless.

6 It's already beginning to sound like a uniform to me.

7 The standard uniform then. Wearing such items betrays any form of individuality if you are having to conform to the standard

To clothe your body black leather jackets are in, along with fishnet stockings and stiletto heels, worn with micro-mini skirts, cut-off jeans, or slit and slashed dresses. Faded, torn and frayed jeans, or shiny black pants and boots are for everyone, topped with torn and decorated T-shirts and sweatshirts.⁷

Or, instead of the above, elements of bondage attire, restraining bands and straight jacket effects, with an extensive assortment of bondage paraphernalia (handcuffs, chains, chrome-studded leather bands around neck, arms, shoulders, legs or ankles) are worn . . . topped with a black leather bike cap.⁸

Plus another, secondhand clothes borrowed from the 50's with a touch of the psychedelic 60's (don't forget your wrap-around girl-watcher glasses) are "in" too, particularly for the sensible new waver, along with graffiti-wear. Paint your clothes with your own style of graphics. (What?)

In direct contrast is the "lingerie look", an off-shoot of the original word punk translation, a street-walker.⁹ Leopard prints are big, camisole tops, garter belts, lace stockings and tights, stiletto heeled mules or ankle straps, silk gloves with fingers cut out, and miniature mad-money purses on a cord.¹⁰

model in order to be regarded as a punk. As Johnny Rotten used to mock, wearing THE leather jacket, THE torn jeans, THE ripped t-shirt, etc., meant you had missed the point, and he was so careful himself to go out of the way trying not to fall into such a trap by wearing clothes that did not necessarily conform to the stereotype image, as can be seen in numerous photos, including an almost Teddy Boy look.

8 Wow, that's original. Considering Malcolm McLaren's shop had been selling such paraphernalia right from the beginning, it was inevitable that Punk would take on a S&M type look. It seems nothing is anathema to the punk aesthetic or cult image.

9 They mean its earliest usage (around 1590-1600) in the sense of "prostitute," from "catamite," from "hoodlum"; the adjective "poor in quality" came much later (in 1896) when it was clearly connected to anything worthless or cheap.

10 I wear that all the time!

* All photos here are by Jenny Lens, the premier photographer of the first wave of the Los Angeles punk scene. She was there from beginning to the end, and her photos can be seen as a visual document of the time. She is still active and continues to run online workshops for budding photographers. Visit her online at <http://punkpioneers.com/>.

PUNK

(Note on author): MARLIZ¹ is internationally known in the industry for her marketing ability in current-trend perception, and "how to" help it explode on the scene. Here's another, PUNK ROCK and what's happening!



L.A. KNOCKERS, Punk-funk dancing and singing group.⁵

3

in spite of what all this sounds like, exaggerated and sometimes even frightening, punk fashion can also look decidedly "punk chic" when put together properly. A simple T-shirt, punk-style necktie, a few chains or safety pins, and jeans, is getting it on. That's what makes punk so fun and so "in". Punk is self-expression. There are no unbreakable rules!²

For example, a very important theatric of the punk look is asymmetry, rarely are both sides of the body dressed in the same fashion. Wear a black lace stocking on one leg and a striped knit knee sock on the other.³

Mostly, punk rock and fashion sound and look super loud. They are aggressively sexy and visually stimulating . . . "look at ME, hear ME, I have something to say". Youth has once again opted to sing it out, act it out, bash it out, and look the part.⁴

1 Who? Apparently also the author behind 'Encyclopedia of nail beauty: How to grow longer, stronger fingernails!' (1972), so must be an expert on punk then. Actually, her real name is Mary Elizabeth Norton, an award-winning fashion and cosmetics expert who specialized in trend forecasting. She worked with many famous names like Max Factor, Charles Revson, Vidal Sassoon, Halston, etc., and for the last 20 years of her life she was a professor with FIDM and other prestigious schools. Like I said, an expert on punk.

2 Except to be a punk, you have to look like one, i.e. wear the right clothes, have the right look, etc., as described herein.

3 Like I said, I wear that all the time.

4 That's very important, apparently. You must look the part.

5 Who? Apparently they were a dance troupe who were active for about 12 years, starting from around 1974 and continuing with various line-up changes until about 1986. To the right they can be seen getting ready to perform at the Playboy Club in L.A. (somewhere around the late 1970s). Why they should be considered a punk-funk dancing/singing group is beyond me, and sound like the sort of people who jump on any current bandwagon, and probably about as embarrassing as watching Pan's People on Top of the Pops dancing to 'Pretty Vacant.' Me? I'd rather watch Hot Gossip, any day.



THE POGO



As told by Jennifer Doyle, choreographer of the L.A. Knockers, a dancing and singing group into Punk-Funk rock acts, the Pogo is a highly energized dance form, a theatrical and emotional reflection of today's society. Frenzied movements tell a story of confrontations and frustration. The pogoer has to have more of a flair for the narrative than a musical awareness. When it is done well both the participants and the observers are emotionally breathless. The Pogo is composed of an alternation of moving and holding stances, freestyle . . . move and hold, move and hold, and on and on. (1) the running crunch (with a growl) is an energized running step, a movement toward or away from a partner, or executed solo-pogo style, usually followed by a jump straight up with feet together. (2) the over-head thrust (with an ugh) is a landing movement then a hold (pose). (3) the waylaid kick turn (with an eee-ee-e) is a movement semi-stance-like followed by a pivot turn. And (4) the pogo strangle (with a gurgle) is a hold with give and take between partners, no victim, grasping each other intermittently around the throat to the bash beat of punk rock. (What? Unbelievable.)

4



Even the punk rock dance attitude, the "pogo", makes a strong statement. It looks very much like an uninhibited tribal stomp, jumping up and down and flailing your arms around. Most pogoers dance alone, but those with partners aggressively attack each other in an act-out of kicking and strangling. Few are hurt and most are just acting outrageous.¹

So while punk rock is probably the start of a musical revolution, and certainly the beginning of a clothing revolution, both can be staged in theatrics, hostilely pogoing, or simply be understated in conceptual chic.

Consequently, the purpose of this "How to Look Punk" guide is to show the look in its most exaggerated form plus in its most conservative. You can spend nothing, or as much as you like, to look like a real PUNK!²



Paul Fraser and Mark Amore of SHOCK³

¹ Is that right? Wow, you learn something new every day.

² Replace the words 'most exaggerated form' with 'most ridiculous form.' Again, the emphasis here appears to be solely on the look, rather than being a punk. Many years ago I took the piss out of the whole punk scene and the people who bought the 'right' clothes (i.e. from Boy or Seditionaries on the Kings Road) in my fanzine Pissed & Broke, because it appeared to be you weren't really a punk if you didn't wear something from one of those shops (and the prices of their clothes were prohibitively expensive, which again is questionable), whereas in the beginning it was all to do with DIY and creating your own look. For most, this was a much cheaper option.

³ Shock were one of the lesser known so-called punk bands to come out of L.A. They never really made much of a big impact on the scene and only produced one or two singles in the late 1970s before disappearing, although much of their early work has now become available on a couple of compilation CDs. Again, it is questionable why they are included here as their appearance is hardly punk, although their sound is more punk than pop.

This photo taken during their heyday would have been more representative of how they looked and sounded. Check out their first single 'This Generation's on Vacation.'





5

skull and chains worn by Sten Gun of the SKULLS 2



NECK CHAIN AND LOCK: Use an old piece of chain from a dog lead, fence, whatever, or buy approximately 27 inches of heavy gauge chain from the hardware store, join ends with a tiny metal lock, to make a necklace. In fact, a dog's choker-chain sold with rings on both ends could provide a ready-made choker for you. Just insert lock in rings for closure. Or, for another necklace, tie a length of chain lariat style, leaving ends dangling, then anchor knot with a safety pin.¹

¹ Wow, that's a helpful suggestion. I will have to remember that.

But honestly, it is hard to take the piss when I cannot forget an old punk friend of mine walking into a pet shop and buying a dog collar with a chain for just that purpose, and the look on the old woman's face behind the counter when she realised he was buying it for him to wear, and not his dog: priceless.

² Like Shock, The Skulls were one of the first punk rock bands to form in 1976 and rose to prominence in the L.A. hardcore scene but never really achieved much of a notable impact. 'Sten Gun' was the nickname of their vocalist Mick Wallace. After a few stints at the notorious Masque club and several line-up changes, they disbanded in October 1977 with members continuing independently under various names. There were no official releases until much later, although they contributed one track to a sample EP on What Records in 1978.

USE CHAINS 'n LINKS

Helen Keller, America's answer
to our own Soo Catwoman
(but see below).

6

CHAIN BELT: Find a piece of heavy chain in a sufficiently ample length to wrap around your waist. Then take two simple metal key rings, or notebook rings, to use as belt rings to hold a fastener. Attach one ring on one end of belt chain, and attach the other to a comfortable waist measurement link. Add double-end bolt snap to rings to secure belt around waist, leaving free end surplus to dangle. Or, instead of the bolt snap as a fastener, use a chain door-guard as a buckle. Bicycle or motorcycle type chain instead of heavy hardware chain looks great too! Note: the same design can be used for a necklace, choker, or bracelet. For a sometime fun bondage look, drop an extra length of chain from your belt and attach it to an ankle chain.¹

LINK BELT: Make a wrap-around belt from a long chain of paper clips or safety pins, put together one by one. Find an old belt buckle to use as a closure.

CHAIN HALTER: Put on a black tube top, or make one from a scarf wrapped around bosom.² Attach a suitable chain on each side of front with safety pins or studs, pull up over shoulders, cross ends on back and bring around to front under bosom, connecting ends with beaded safety pins. Just slip some beads over prong of pin for a decorative touch.

PUNK SUSPENDERS:³ Make a pair of chain suspenders by attaching chains to large metal clamps, the kind you find on a clip board. You need two lengths of chain of your choice, crossed in back, and 4 clamps to attach to chains then clamp onto pants or skirt. A pair of punk suspenders can be made from regular cord, also, or from parachute straps found at a surplus store. Canvas luggage straps, or oversized toy plastic chains work too.

BOOT CHAINS: To wear on leather boots, punk style, wrap a length of chain around top of boot and back of heel, connect ends with rings or safety pins. Attach another length at one side by ankle bone, wrap under arch, and attach the other end to other side by ankle bone to hold boot chains in place. Or, wrap a single length of chain espadrille-fashion from under arch crisscrossed around boot up leg. Hold together at top with a ring or safety pin.⁴

* Note Helen's claim to fame has to be hitting Sid Vicious when he was on stage and giving him a bloody nose. They apparently became good friends afterwards, as can be testified by some photos of them talking together. Helen (also-spelt Hellin Keller) is still active and can be found on various social media sites.

¹ That sounds practical.

² Assuming one has a bosom.

³ Yeah, they look really good under my bondage trousers.

⁴ Thanks Marliq, I'll try that when I get home. Got some old wellies. Will that do?



Punkers Helen Keller, Belinda and Pleasant Puss(y)
in bondage gear¹



BE A PUNK IN BONDAGE¹

7

BONDAGE LEATHER JEWELRY BANDS: Borrow your cat or dog's studded leather collar² and wear it around your wrist, neck, ankle, wherever it fits.³ Black with chrome studs is ideal for the bondage look.⁴ Or, if you have an old leather⁵ watch strap, you can stud it (buy studs in bike shop) and make a key chain to hang from one of your jeans' belt loops.

HANDCUFF BELT: Make a bondage punk belt by taking a suitable length of heavy material, or an old scarf, a strip of leather if you have it, or use an old leather belt with the buckle cut off . . . and wrap the ends around a pair of toy handcuffs to form a belt buckle. Looks super punk and nasty⁶.

ANKLE CHAIN: As the ultimate expression of bondage,⁷ use any piece of chain available that looks right for an ankle bracelet. Create a closure with a safety pin, paper clip or small metal lock. For fun time, wear an ankle chain on both legs and connect between with a separate length of chain that you drag along the ground. (Be careful not to trip, you punk!)⁸

¹ Punkers? Isn't that short for punk pretenders? What's wrong with the term punk or punkette? Punker suggests someone playing at being a punk, as the author would suggest everyone is. After all, it's only a fashion trend, isn't it? Helen Keller is on the previous page. Above, Belinda (of the Go-Gos fame) and Pleasant Gehman.

² Wow, that's original.

³ I'm sure my dog won't mind if I ask it nicely.

⁴ Round my dick . . . will that do?

⁵ Right, I'll take your word for it.

⁶ But what if you're a vegan? Do you reckon I could get away with a plastic strap instead?

⁷ I'll have to believe you, but personally I prefer to use real handcuffs, always polished of course, so they're nice and shiny.

⁸ Really? The ultimate? Wow!

That's not patronising at all, is it? Please specify length, to make sure I don't keep tripping over, that is.

LOOK PUNK WITH WRAPS 'N TIES

WRIST WRAPS: An important part of the punk look is wrapped wrists or upper arms. Small scarves or kerchiefs are wound around with knotted ends, plain or printed. Then on top of wrist or arm wrap, a leather studded bondage band or any number of chains and thongs may be worn, whatever the individual punker¹ feels like putting together.

LEG WRAPS: Pant legs look punk when wrapped with leather thongs, string, cord or canvas luggage straps.² In fact, plastic masking tape in black looks very punk and provides maximum control.³ Part of the punk look is a straight leg,⁴ almost a pegged silhouette. So wrap your old bell-bottoms⁵ tight around the legs.



John Denney and David Trout of the WEIRDOS on stage⁷



Punker Margaret (Lovelegs) (Who?)



NECK THONGS: Wrap a leather thong around your neck, then knot, tie or pin casually.⁶ Old shoestrings can also be effective. Attach safety pins, paper clips, studs and such for a more decorative creative touch.

NECKTIES: A "must" accessory for both male and female punks is an unconventional necktie worn simply over a T-shirt, or junked in among many other accessories. It is knotted loosely at the collarbone, very casually. The outdated string-like men's neckties of the 50's work great, or just use a strip of plastic cut from a shopping bag and tie ends into a square knot. Another necktie effect, that looks more like jewelry, is created with a heavy industrial zipper. Unzip the zipper and place it around your neck, keeping the joined end consisting of zipper tab and ring at center front. Wrap loose ends around back of neck and tie or pin. Hang safety pins, metals, a rabbit's foot,⁸ whatever, from the zipper tab at front. In fact, hang all sorts of memorabilia from any other zipper on the clothing you are wearing.



¹ Punker = Pretend punk, i.e. pseudo, quasi, fake, false, ersatz, etc., anything that is not genuine (opposite of punk). Also a player, someone playing at being a punk, and thus not the Real McCoy.

² Especially if you're still inclined to wear flares.

³ And particularly useful for preventing them pesky rodents from running up your legs.

⁴ As opposed to a bent leg. How unpunk!

⁵ Er, excuse me, but do people still wear bell-bottoms? I thought that went out in the fifties.

⁶ But not too tight. Can cause asphyxiation if taken to the extreme.

⁷ WeirDOS, a brilliant band. Saw them at the Troubadour in 2005, when they were still going strong and still packing a punch. Check out the first two singles: *Destroy All Music* (Bomp! 1977) and *We Got The Neutron Bomb* (Dangerhouse 1978).

⁸ For good luck, presumably.



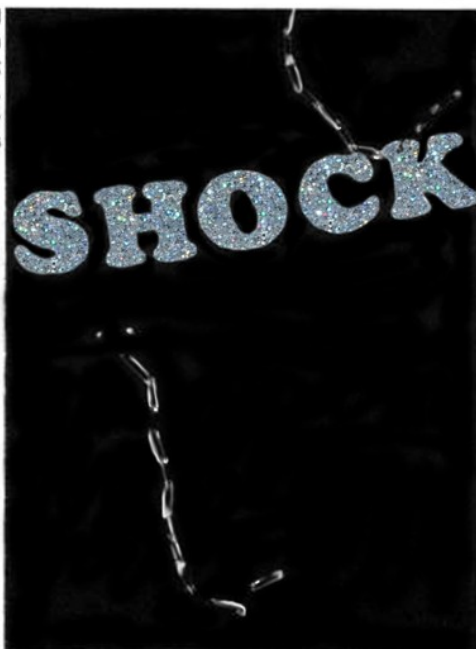
SYMBOLIZE WITH SAFETY PINS

Good old safety pins. Where would us punks be without them? God bless.

PINS 'N CLIPS FOR EARS: Safety pins, badge pins and paper clips are being worn in pierced ears, and also hung from rings in ears, and on fingers. For a super original finger look,¹ put on several simple, thin bands then hook together with a safety pin. Punk jewelry should look like ordinary things, but jewelry manufacturers are already making them for retail sales in precious metals.²



Punker Mary Kat (Who?)



PUNK SPELLED WITH PINS: Create a chain of small safety pins then spell out PUNK in an arrangement. Work it out on paper first,³ making yourself a pattern, then lay out pins on a suitable piece of clothing and pin PUNK into place. The front of a T-shirt or the back of a jacket would be very dramatic.⁴

TORN T-SHIRT PIN-ONS: Bathtub plug type ball chain, or keyring type beaded chain, can be used to loop around safety pins or studs on a torn T-shirt. Use safety pins on holes and tears, plus leave a few dangle. Since safety pins are the symbol of the punk rock look,⁵ use them generously on shirts and pants . . . scattered, or lined up like stitching, large pins crossed by small pins, dangling in bunches, whatever. Another idea, a torn T-shirt in a bright color with holes artistically encouraged⁶ looks "punk chic" over a long sleeved black leotard type top.⁷

¹ As opposed to a boring unoriginal finger look.

² To sell to punkers, presumably.

³ Making sure you know how to spell the word PUNK first.

⁴ Really? But, Miss, wouldn't it look better if I was to spell it PUNKER? After all, that's what you keep calling us.

⁵ We must reiterate. Actually, in the late 1970's if anybody wore a safety pin, it got to the point they were called a punk. How ridiculous.

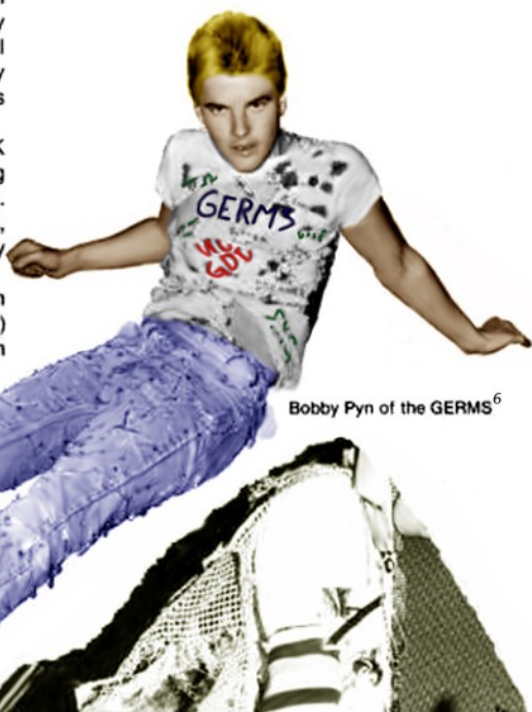
⁶ She means deliberately ripped, of course. Malcolm McLaren was most impressed when he was in New York and came across Richard Hell wearing a ripped T-shirt as he had never seen that before. So we could say its origins lie in the USA, but its popularisation was definitely in the UK when it was de rigueur to be seen with one, i.e. it became a standard uniform.

⁷ Yeah, I wear one of them all the time.

CUT-UP T-SHIRT LOOK: Cut an old shirt into pieces, (with some design in mind)¹ then lace it back together again with safety pins. Cut out the sleeves, cut a new neckline, cut an asymmetrical opening down the front, trim the shirt into a vest shape . . . any design that suits you, then pin it back together lining up the pins in an orderly fashion.

CUSTOM JUNK T-SHIRT TO MAKE: Paint the letters PUNK on the front of an old T-shirt, or sweatshirt (looks tougher)², using fabric paint (available in art supply departments), nail polish or ink. Then decorate the letters with actual punk junk³, pins, clips, beads, chain, toy gun or dagger (add a splash of red for blood for a nasty punk statement)⁴.

JEANS OF PINS: Literally cover a pair of ragged jeans with safety pins. You can even line the pants' fly with pins, if (or if not) the zipper is broken. Pin-covered jeans look particularly punk when worn with a graffiti decorated T-shirt.⁵



Bobby Pyn of the GERMS⁶

10



CREATE SOME GARBAGE BAG COUTURE

VESTS 'N TOPS: Cut out a sleeveless top or vest from a black plastic garbage bag. Wear over long-sleeved T-shirt and tuck into jeans. Old garment bags can be used as well. Use plastic masking tape or transparent mending tape to join seams. Garbage bag couture looks great with some original graffiti art too. If you are handy with the needle, cut an old piece of foam rubber sheeting into a jerkin, seam shoulders and sides. Wear over a long-sleeved T-shirt and tie waist with a cord or chain.⁷

1 Of course, for one must be artistic, mustn't one.

2 Does it? So we have to look tough, being punks? Now, I get it.

3 Available from your local punk junk store, folks.

4 What? Utter rubbish. I think this writer is getting confused with Halloween costumes.

5 We'll take your word for it, but try not to overdo it. Too many pins make a bad punk.

6 AKA Darby Crash (real name Jan Paul Beahm) formed the Germs in early 1977 with his friend Pat Smear who would later go on to play guitar for Nirvana as an extra guitarist, and after Kurt Cobain's death joining Dave Grohl's new band, the Foo Fighters. Crash was a brilliant songwriter but his addiction to alcohol and drugs undermined many of the Germs' live performances and caused the band to fragment. They recorded an excellent album on the new Slash label with former Runaways' guitarist Joan Jett called G.I., named after the moniker they adopted when they had to play under an alias having been banned from the L.A. club circuit (hence 'Germs Incognito'). After the break up of the band in 1980 Crash came to the UK where he was enamoured of the whole punk scene and grew a Mohican upon his return to the U.S. Sadly by the end of that year, along with his friend Casey Cola Hopkins, as part of a suicide pact, he took his own life through an intentional drug overdose. She survived but his death would be overshadowed by the murder of John Lennon the following day.

7 Yes, Miss, but what if I look stupid? 'It don't matter, because you will still look like a punk.' Oh, right.

BUTTON ON PUNK GRAFFITI



Sten Gun of the SKULLS⁴

PUNK BADGES: Paint old badges, or make stickers for them out of wide masking tape cut into shapes, then letter on your own punkisms.¹ Here are some suggestions: I Am Punk, Punk Power, Thunk Punk, Go Punk Yourself, Anti-Punk, Punk Pop Rocker, Any Punkin Lately?² Dance the Punk Stomp! Pogo Anyone? Punk is Funky, Punk 'n Nasty, Super Punk, Hey Ho Punk, Let's Go Punkin...³ whatever suits you and what you're wearing.



¹ Er, excuse me, Miss, but what's a punkism?

² You must be fucking joking, Miss. What the fuck is a Punk Think? Is that the same as a drunk punk with a lip? And what the fuck does Go Punk Yourself mean? You're having me on, aren't you, Miss. You're pulling my plonker. I want to look like a respectable punk, you know, like one of them ones you see strutting down the Kings Rd on a Saturday afternoon. I don't want nobody laughing at me. I want to be taken seriously, like a real punk. Anti Punk? You what? Punk Pop Rocker? What's that, when it's at home, Miss? Is it a cross between a popper and a punker? Sounds like he's very confused to me, Miss. Do you seriously expect me to wear something that says 'Any Punkin Lately'? I mean, what the fuck does that mean? You cannot expect anyone to be taken seriously with something like that on their badge, as if I would walk up to my mate in a pub and say, 'Hello, John, done any punkin lately?' Stewth! Stone the crows. And I thought being a punk was all about being true to yourself, expressing yourself, your own individuality. How wrong was I?

³ I know, why don't I wear a badge that says PLEASE KICK ME IN THE TEETH or RIP ME OFF, or simply JUST KILL ME. Now that is really punk (or punkin).

⁴ Wow, don't he look punk!



MAKE-UP LIKE A PUNK

FACE LOOK: Everything goes if you want to look wild, "Star Wars" is as good a guide as any.² However, the more street-scene look is "heavy on the eyes", a studied attempt to shout that you're wearing make-up.³

Consulting make-up artist Chole Maquillage⁴ of Hollywood tells me that the make-up for punk rockers is decidedly different East, West, and across the ocean. In London, because of the political uprisings, the make-up is very extreme, hard and almost nasty, painted on like a defiant mask,⁵ while in New York it seems to be just plain "street punk", boyishly plain and tough looking. The Los Angeles punk is a happy compromise. It's a fun scene expressed with personal release, just "paint it on so we can look outrageous and dance the pogo all night".⁶

But even in Los Angeles, there is a touch of the extreme plus a more conservative wave of the quietly chic punk look. For the extreme, eyes are heavily outlined all the way around, upper and lower, with liner extensions at outer corners. Lids are totally shadowed all the way across, using at least two colors of eye shadow and more often three. The over-all design around the eyes can be an extreme lift at outer corners, cat-like, or can be exactly the opposite, actually dropped down and blended off into the cheek area. Eye designs for the extremist are theatrical paint-ons, having little to do with enhancing natural beauty.

For brunettes, it is a combination of red, gun-metal, and black, laid on as heavily or as subtly as desired depending on the occasion. Gunmetal shadow is used across eyelid itself, red is used on bone under eyebrow, and black is smudged around eye as an outliner. Colors are silvery shiny, not pearly white, in their iridescent quality.

For blondes and in-betweens, bright clean colors are used to lift the face. (Don't forget that punk costume background colors are more often drab than not, with lots of black and plain fabrics as opposed to stripes and prints, which dictates a brighter face for paler or drabber hair colors.) The most punk eye shadow color combinations involve a clear bright for highlighting and a deep bright for shading, for example, red with purple or rust, or green with rust is another. The above colors are the most popular in multi-combinations.



Mascara is not important for the extremist punk because it tends to distract from the studied eye shadow designs.⁷ Blusher IS, however. Two shades of blusher are used, a bright on the cheekbone and a deep under it to define color. This use of blusher as facial shading particularly emphasizes the punkers' wan pallor by contrast.

Lips are painted in opaque shades ranging anywhere from bright blood red to the deepest available. In some instances, the mouth is distinctly outlined with a deep shade and left bare in the center for extreme drama.⁸

The more conservative quietly chic punk make-up is almost boyish⁹... just a clear or pale gloss on the lips... no blusher, but emphasis on facial shading to create a bony effect... variations of brown eye shadow on the eyelid and a subdued rust on the browbone for highlighting... a bit of mascara and natural eyebrows complete the look.

As a make-up base for all punks, both extreme and conservative, the skin should look pale rather than tan, a mask rather than natural. The punk scene is basically a street scene with a pallor, as compared to a suntanned surfer.¹⁰

Fingernail paint is extreme for the exaggerated punk, all colors bright to black, many decorated with decals or brushed on designs.¹¹ The conservative punk would skip it, preferring a boyishly natural look.

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¹ Alice Bag was the lead singer of the Bags who did a great single on Dangerhouse called 'Survive,' and were one of the few bands at the front of the West Coast scene who were there practically from the beginning (they formed in 1976), but never really made it. They never developed or evolved enough to put out an album, and went through several line up changes with Alice continuing by herself as The Alice Bag Band which seemed to have interchangeable personnel. Pat Bag (Morrison) of the original line up of the Bags (she was co-founder with Alice) would go on to play bass in such bands as the Gun Club, Sisters of Mercy, and the Damned in 1996. She ended marrying its lead singer Dave Vanian. Alice would go on to become something of an icon, being seen as the female voice of punk, a proto feminist or original Riot Girl, and still does sing, lecture, and is an author, outspoken activist, and a self-proclaimed troublemaker, i.e. a punk at heart.

² Pardon? How does Star Wars fit into the equation? You've lost me completely, Miss.

³ I am not being sexist here but is this also applicable to men as well?

⁴ Who? Has to be a pseudonym as maquillage simply means make-up, cosmetics, its application, etc. Another expert on punk: Yeah, right.

⁵ So political uprisings in the UK affect how we put on our make-up. Really? Well I never knew that.

⁶ You've got to be kidding. You're having me on, Miss.

⁷ Oh good, so I can get away with not wearing mascara. Nice to know.

⁸ Extreme drama, huh? I love it.

⁹ Especially on boys.

¹⁰ You don't say. But what about surfer punks, surely they would be tanned? Darn it, I'm confused again.

¹¹ I don't think I've seen any punk with decals or brushed on designs. Have you?

Punkers
Linda Stokes and
Kathleen Frasca

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STYLE YOUR HAIR PUNK-LIKE

HAIR LOOK: Short looks best, cropped with clippers to look like a growing out crew cut. Boys (and some girls) are greasing their hair so that it stands out straight and unruly, referred to as "forked hair."¹ Petroleum jelly or any thick pomade will create the effect (plus do wonders for dry hair). For extra holding power, after greasing the hair, regular talcum powder is shaken on, then the hair is run through with the fingers until it stands-up and holds. Hair control spray can be applied for extra "stay-put".

Most girls really want to look punk-pretty,² so emphasis is placed on hair coloring effects rather than on rebel-like hairstyles. For adventurous punks, multi-design hair colors are created with food coloring mixtures or with commercial "crazy party color" sprays³ . . . bright redheads are "in", as are brunettes with streaks of silver. All blondes and drab in-betweens can go wild with multi-color temporary rinses and sprays.

If hair is long, it can be tucked back into a short look with locks and wisps released around the face.⁴ Hair should look undone, not coiffed and sprayed. Top-knots, and hair tied in bundles, are very much in punk style.

1 I think she means spiked hair. I've known punks to use all sorts of applications to get their hair standing up straight, from lard to cooking fat, even WD40, but for those of us who have unruly hair, we simply keep it shaved. Does that still mean I'm a punk?

2 I.e. Pretty in Punk. But seriously I've seen some really gorgeous punkettes who have looked incredible by getting the hair and make-up just right. I've also seen some pretty boys as well.

3 But be careful when using these sprays for they go all over the place. I remember spraying my mate's hair blue in my bedroom and found I had bits of blue all over me when I woke up the next day as it had covered my pillows, sheets, etc. Also, it's a bugger to wash out, and we therefore recommend it only for part-time punks. Real punks, of course, dye their hair.

4 Wouldn't it be easier to just cut it?

And, of course, there is the punk compromise between boyish cropped heads and pretty tousels and locks. As expressed by consulting artist Chole Maquillage, "long pieces of locks, and hanging things look funky-punky when custom cut and arranged around a crew cut. The contrast of the two extremes, a short and severe cropped head combined with undone long locks, is truly punk!"⁵

AND NOW FOR A PUNKY CONCLUSION

An integral part of the punk movement is to give yourself a punk alias (if you don't already own one). Name yourself a punk!⁶ For openers, eye these for-real "How to Look Punk" credits:

Photographer: Jenny Lens

Design & Illustration: Kelly Coy

Make-up Consultant: Chole Maquillage

Choreography: L.A. Knockers

Punk Rock Groups: Weirdos, Shock, Germs (Bobby Pyn and Lorna Doom), Skulls (Sten Gun), Bags (Alice Douche Bag)

Publication Excerpts: Clash, Thundertrain, Dictators, Stanglers, Damned, Richard Hell, Sex Pistols, Ramones, Runaways . . . and finally . . .

Author: *Marlitz* (Punk Alias) Marlitz?

5 We'll take your word for it. No credited citation has me worried.

6 OK, I'm a punk. Will that do?

But seriously, on a final note, this 'how to' guide should be avoided as in reality most punks don't need to be told how to look punk. They simply do it, and whatever comes natural, or feels right, should be fine. We do not need to conform to a stereotype image by being forced to wear the right clothes, or have the right hairstyle, etc. Punk comes from the heart, not the head. It's as simple as that.

DON'T MISS OUR NEXT
EXCITING INSTALMENT:
WHITE DOPES ON PUNK

